

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY**

**FITCHBURG GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY
2003 INTEGRATED GAS RESOURCE PLAN
Docket No. D.T.E. 03-52**

**COMPANY'S RESPONSES TO THE DEPARTMENT'S
FIRST SET OF INFORMATION REQUESTS**

DTE-1-39 Has the Company conducted a market analysis regarding the likelihood of migration to transportation? If so, please provide copies of all relevant information and discuss the extent to which this information has been incorporated in the migration sensitivity analyses.

Company Response:

The Company has not conducted a market analysis regarding the likelihood of migration to transportation. The Company has, however, had informal discussions with third party suppliers operating within Fitchburg's service territory in assessing the likelihood of migration to transportation, with one supplier currently remaining. The Company believes that the amount of migration will be static as discussed on pages 77 and 78 of the Company's 2003 Integrated Resource Plan, Section 3, Forecast of Resources Under Normal and Design Conditions.

Person Responsible: Richard MacInnis

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DTE-1-40 Please provide a load duration curve to illustrate projected sendout to meet firm system requirements under normal and design conditions for all forecasted years. For each case please identify:

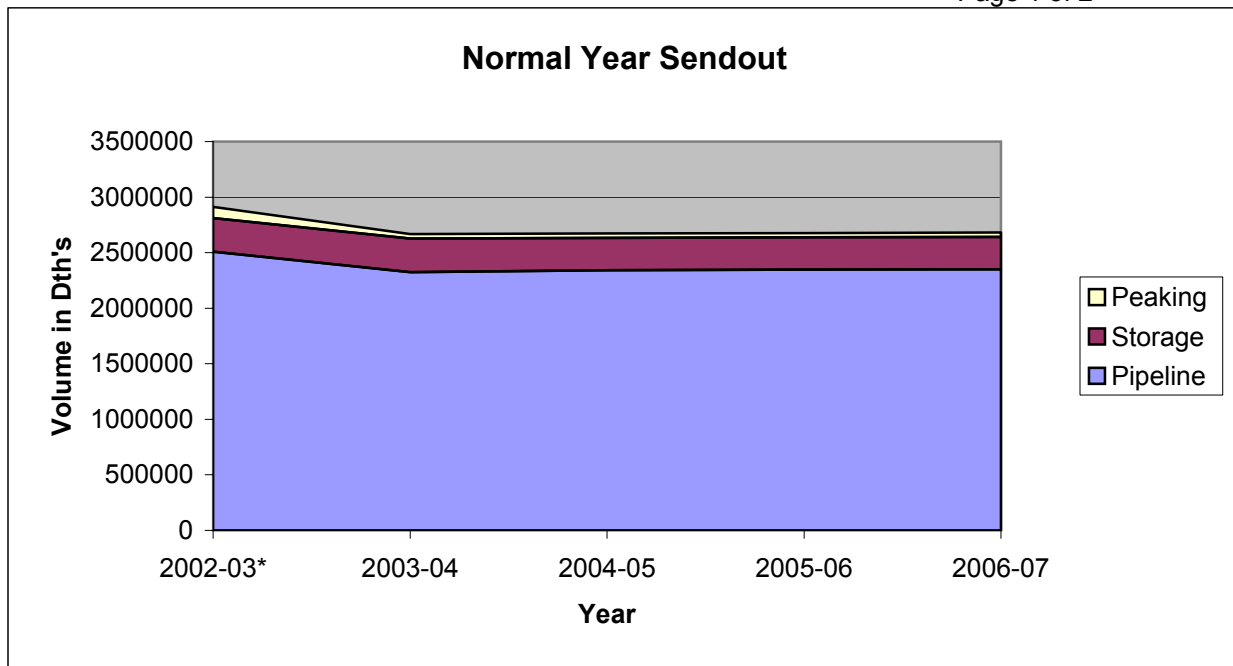
- (a) total volume of each resource dispatched;
- (b) the maximum daily capacity of firm pipeline service; and
- (c) the maximum daily capacity of firm storage services.

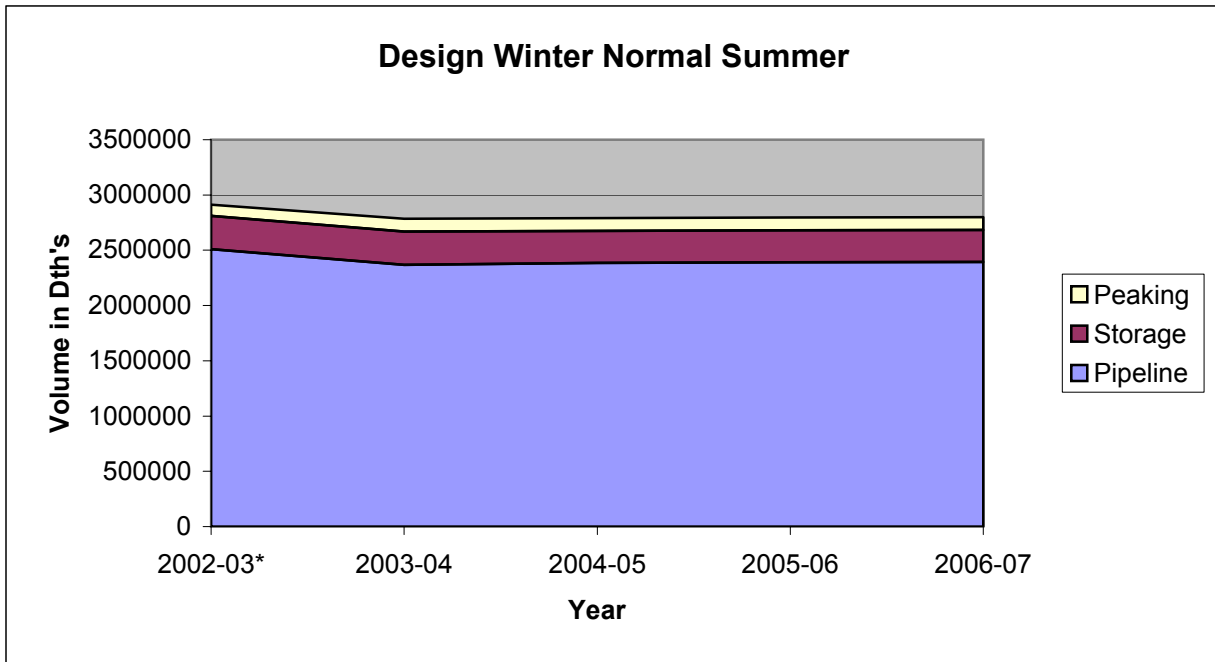
Company Response:

Please refer to attachment DTE 1-40.

- (a) Please refer to pages 79 and 80 of the Company's 2003 Integrated Resource Plan (for each resource dispatched). (Tables G-22N and G-22D)
- (b) Please refer to page 73 of the Company's 2003 Integrated Resource Plan.
- (c) The Company currently has the ability to withdraw from storage 5,273 decatherms per day. After March 31st of 2004, with the expiration of Dominion Transmission Storage, as discussed in Section E. (1.), page 76 of the Company's 2003 Integrated Resource Plan , the Company will have the ability to withdraw 4,807 decatherms per day.

Person Responsible: Richard MacInnis





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DTE-1-41 Please provide a load duration curve comparing Fitchburg's most severe cold snap experience within the past five years to Fitchburg's currently proposed resource plan. Within this hypothesis, please provide a table indicating:

- (a) the total volume of each resource used in order of dispatch;
- (b) the maximum remaining volume of each contracted resource ; and
- (c) any variables that may affect the quality of such a data comparison.

Company Response:

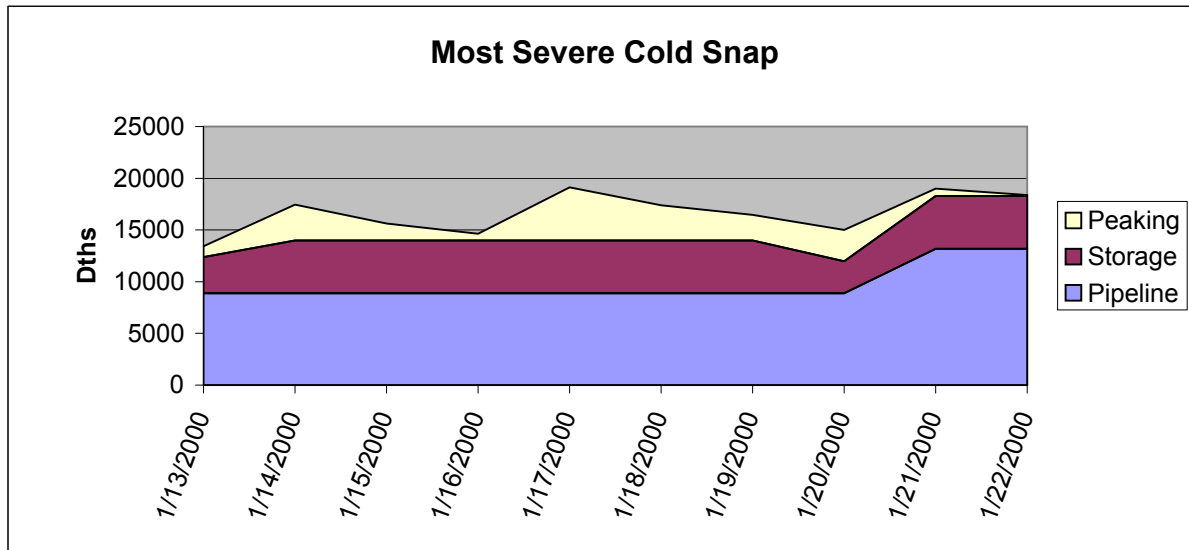
- (a) and (b) Please refer to attachment DTE 1-41

Attachment DTE 1-41 page 1 of 2 compares the coldest ten day period within the past five years with the currently proposed resource plan.

Attachments DTE 1-41 page 2 of 2 compares the coldest ten day period within the past five years with the current supply portfolio.

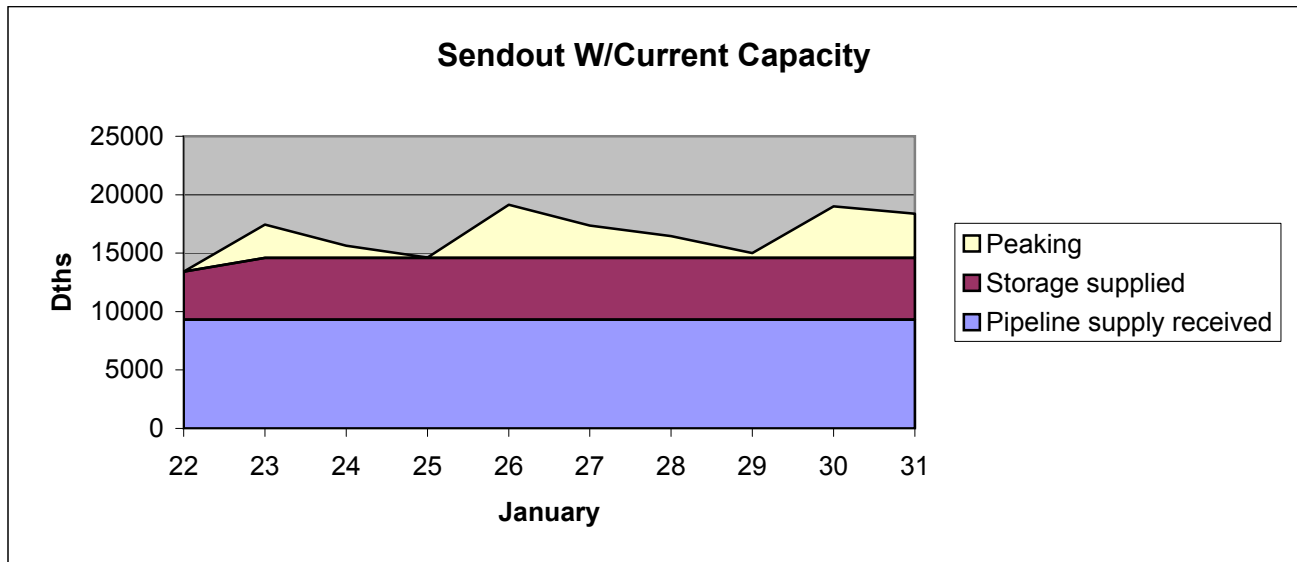
- (c) NA

Person Responsible: Richard MacInnis



| DD | | Pipeline | Pipeline | Storage | Storage | Daily | | Total |
|--------------|---------|-----------------|--------------------------|----------|----------------------|---------|-------------------|----------|
| Ten Day Cold | Date | Supply Received | Transportation Remaining | Supplied | Withdrawal Remaining | Peaking | Peaking Remaining | Received |
| 51 | 1/13/00 | 8894 | 1684 | 3479 | 1794 | 1046 | 13354 | 13419 |
| 60 | 1/14/00 | 8894 | 83 | 5080 | 193 | 3465 | 10935 | 17439 |
| 55 | 1/15/00 | 8894 | 83 | 5080 | 193 | 1654 | 12746 | 15628 |
| 46 | 1/16/00 | 8894 | 83 | 5080 | 193 | 661 | 13739 | 14635 |
| 63 | 1/17/00 | 8894 | 83 | 5080 | 193 | 5157 | 9243 | 19131 |
| 58 | 1/18/00 | 8894 | 83 | 5080 | 193 | 3400 | 11000 | 17374 |
| 55 | 1/19/00 | 8894 | 83 | 5080 | 193 | 2481 | 11919 | 16455 |
| 50 | 1/20/00 | 8894 | 2095 | 3068 | 2205 | 3043 | 11357 | 15005 |
| 59 | 1/21/00 | 13194 | -4217 | 5080 | 193 | 724 | 13676 | 18998 |
| 61 | 1/22/00 | 13194 | -4217 | 5080 | 193 | 92 | 14308 | 18366 |
| % take | | 103.07% | | 89.49% | | 15.09% | | 166450 |

The over take on pipeline received (Jan 21-22) was achieved on an interruptable basis through TGP



| | Pipeline Supply Received | Pipeline Transportation Remaining | Storage Supplied | Storage Withdrawals Remaining | Peaking | Daily Peaking Remaining | Total Received |
|-----------|--------------------------------|---|---------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1/22 | 9318 | 1172 | 4101 | 1172 | 0 | 14400 | 13419 |
| 1/23 | 9318 | 0 | 5273 | 0 | 2848 | 11552 | 17439 |
| 1/24 | 9318 | 0 | 5273 | 0 | 1037 | 13363 | 15628 |
| 1/25 | 9318 | 0 | 5273 | 0 | 44 | 14356 | 14635 |
| 1/26 | 9318 | 0 | 5273 | 0 | 4540 | 9860 | 19131 |
| 1/27 | 9318 | 0 | 5273 | 0 | 2783 | 11617 | 17374 |
| 1/28 | 9318 | 0 | 5273 | 0 | 1864 | 12536 | 16455 |
| 1/29 | 9318 | 0 | 5273 | 0 | 414 | 13986 | 15005 |
| 1/30 | 9318 | 0 | 5273 | 0 | 4407 | 9993 | 18998 |
| 1/31 | 9318 | 0 | 5273 | 0 | 3775 | 10625 | 18366 |
| % of take | 99.20% | | 97.78% | | 15.08% | Total | 166450 |

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- DTE-1-43 (a) Please indicate any dates within the last five years during which Fitchburg interrupted gas service to any of its firm supply customers.
- (b) If applicable, identify the customer groups that were interrupted, the number of customers interrupted, length of service interruption, and the reason for each interruption.
- (c) Please provide a list of the interruptible and quasi-firm transportation customers on the Company's system.

Company Response:

- (a) There have been no interruptions of firm gas supply customers within the last five years.
- (b) NA
- (c) The Company currently has 5 interruptible customers on the system.
 There are currently no quasi-firm customers on the Company's system

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DTE-1-45 For each of the Company's current commodity contracts, please provide the following:

- (a) geographic source;
- (b) whether the contract has an initial term greater than one year
- (c) the date the contract was entered into if the contract has been a short-term contract but has been renewed;
- (d) expiration date of contract;
- (e) whether the contract contains an evergreen provision; and
- (f) whether the contract has a load loss provision.

Company Response:

- (a) Please refer to Attachment DTE-1-45
- (b) No current contracts have an initial term greater than one year. The Company is currently under negotiations with one supplier for a term of longer than one year.
- (c) No commodity contracts have been renewed. New commodity contracts have been awarded pursuant to responses to Requests for Proposals.
- (d) Please refer to Attachment DTE-1-45
- (e) Current commodity contracts do not contain evergreen provisions.
- (f) Current commodity contracts do not contain load loss provisions.

Person Responsible: Richard MacInnis

| Supplier | Geographic Delivery | End of contract | MDQ | Type of Contract | \$/Dths |
|----------|---------------------|-----------------|------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Lunenburg, Ma | 10/31/2004 | 3,636 Dths | Winter/Peaking | \$1.99 plus day of delivery |
| 2 | Westminster, MA | 10/31/2003 | 6,300 Dths | Peaking | \$7.00 |
| 3 | Gulf | 10/31/2003 | 3,831 Dths | Baseload | \$6.32 |
| 4 | Market Area | 3/31/2004 | 2,215 Dths | Winter | Demand CHG of \$.01 |
| 5 | Dracut | 3/31/2004 | 1,084 Dths | Winter | |
| 6 | Everett, Ma | 10/31/2004 | 2,000 dths | Peaking | |

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- DTE-1-47 For each contract in the Company's supply portfolio, please provide the following in tabular form:
- (a) maximum daily quantity ("MDQ");
 - (b) whether the contract is peaking, winter or base load;
 - (c) the average commodity cost (\$/Dth) assuming the Company consumed the MDQs allowed by the contract throughout the heating period and assuming 1999-2000 prices;
 - (d) the average commodity cost based on actual takes and prices for the same period; and
 - (e) actual city-gate costs (including capacity where applicable).

Company Response:

- (a), (b), and (e) - Please refer to attachment DTE 1-45. Currently the Company is taking supply under two fixed commodity price contracts. The commodity costs will vary on the other contracts because they are based on daily or monthly indexes.
- (c) & (d) The Company currently has no long term contracts.

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DTE-1-52 What price does city gate natural gas have to reach in order to make LNG a profitable alternative resource for base-load supplies?

Company Response:

The price of LNG purchased by the Company has two primary components, a Demand Charge and a Commodity charge. Prior to entering into an LNG contract, both components would have to be taken into account for any economic comparison. Once the Company enters into an LNG contract, for the duration of the LNG contract, the Demand Charge would be considered a “sunk cost” and would not enter into the economic decision comparing city gate natural gas to LNG. Additionally, there are local production costs associated with LNG plant operations that include fuel to vaporize the LNG, any marginal labor costs and the cost of trucking the LNG to the company’s local plant, which cost is in addition to the LNG contract price. The Company’s LNG contracts have also typically included the potential for LNG contract delivery via pipeline after vaporization which would save production and trucking costs, but would include some marginal pipeline transportation costs.

The LNG commodity pricing had historically been fixed at the time of execution of the contract, however some suppliers have now changed their contract pricing to have the commodity price indexed to the price of pipeline natural gas in New England. With fixed commodity prices, at the time the Company entered into the contract, the commodity price would be comparable to pipeline gas, but in addition would include a Demand charge in excess of \$3.00/Dth. From a contracting standpoint LNG would, therefore, not be an economic choice for base load gas supply. For LNG contracts that have a fixed LNG commodity cost, at the time the company entered into the contract, the commodity price would have been set significantly higher than expected pipeline natural gas prices. Since the fixed commodity priced contracts also have a significant demand charge (\$2.00/dth or more), again the LNG would not be an economic choice for base load supply.

Person Responsible: David K. Foote

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DTE-1-55 Please describe the process the Company employs to ensure that it continually evaluates resource options to maintain an optimal, least cost, resource portfolio.

Company Response:

Please refer to the Company's 2003 Integrated Resource Plan, pages 61 through 63.

Person Responsible: Richard MacInnis